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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

VOL. LXVIII, No. 61

Section 1

March 29, 1938

**SENATE PASSES REORGANIZATION** The Senate adopted yesterday the reorganization bill giving the President wide powers to alter the executive branch of the government by a vote of 49 to 42 and sent it to the House for consideration. The bill, as passed by the Senate, is a greatly modified form of one presented by a Presidential committee. Its major sections include: (1) authority for the President to reorganize bureaus and agencies within specified limits by Executive order subject to Congressional veto within sixty days; (2) displacement of the Controller General by an Auditor General with fewer powers; (3) establishment of a Department of Public Welfare and a National Resources Planning Board; (4) substitution of an administrator for the Civil Service Board; and (5) authorization for the appointment of six special assistants to the President. (New York Times.)

**FOREIGN SILVER PRICE DOWN** The Treasury reduced its price for foreign silver from 45 to 44 cents an ounce yesterday. This was the first reduction in price since January 20, 1936. The significant step followed by one day the announcement by Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury, that the purchase of silver from Mexico would be suspended until further notice after April 1. At the State Department the question of silver was said to be primarily a Treasury matter, but Treasury officials declined to discuss either the Mexican decision or the reduction of the so-called "New York price." (Press.)

**GERMAN FARM LABOR** A Berlin wireless to the New York Times reports that, to stem the "flight from the land," which has produced a serious shortage of agricultural labor, Dr. Fritz Reinhardt, State Secretary in the German Finance Ministry, has announced that henceforth persons who, in obtaining marriage aid loans, prove they have continuously worked in agriculture or forestry since leaving school will be permitted to delay repayment of the loans until they reach the age of 30 and if they prove that up to that period they have still continued in agricultural occupations, all claim for repayment will be canceled and the loans will become State gifts.

**COMMODITY PRICES AT LOW** A new low point for the current recession in wholesale commodity prices was reached last week, according to the price index compiled by the National Fertilizer Association. This index in the week ended March 26 dropped to 75.8 per cent of the 1926-28 average, the lowest point recorded since June, 1936. (Press.)



**"Rural Youth  
On Relief"**

A 112-page, handsomely printed and illustrated survey of "Rural Youth on Relief," just published by the Works Progress Administration, was cited recently by Aubrey Williams, Acting WPA Administrator, as offering proof that Federal aid to such youth must be continued and extended. "During the past five years more than 2,000,000 rural youths have received some form of government assistance," he said. "With the present surplus of youth on the land whom industry cannot immediately absorb, and with the oncoming masses of youth in both farm and non-farm rural territory who will be pressing for employment opportunities, Federal aid is essential for the attainment of economic security by those impoverished young men and women." The survey indicated, Mr. Williams added, that the status of young men and women in the low-income strata of rural society was largely the result of long-time trends in agriculture, including depletion of soil fertility, overcrowding of the land and, in some sections, the practice of farming unsuitable for the area. Revival of industrial activity in the cities, he held, would have little immediate effect on conditions in sub-marginal land areas. The report's chief recommendation is that such young persons be kept in school until they are 18 to lessen the pressure on available jobs and to equip them better to make social and economic adjustments. At the time of the survey in October, 1935, only about a sixth of the youth in the rural households on relief that were investigated were in school. (New York Times.)

**Oxidation  
Wool Test**

A new and simple test for the detection of oxidation in wool has been discovered by Henry A. Rutherford and Milton Harris, research associates of the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists at the National Bureau of Standards, the Department of Commerce has announced. The method is based on the ability of oxidized wool to convert a ferrous salt into a ferric salt which, in the presence of thiocyanate, gives the characteristic red color of ferric thiocyanate, the announcement said. The development was hailed as of practical importance to the wool and dye industries because the susceptibility of wool to deterioration during wet treatments, especially with alkaline reagents, is appreciably increased if the wool has previously been oxidized. (Press.)

**Ipecac in  
Demand**

A Managua cable to the New York Times says the demand for Nicaraguan ipecac has become so great that to avoid its extinction President Anastasio Somoza has issued a decree forbidding digging up of the plant during March, April, and May. Heavy fines are provided for breaking of the law. The plant grows wild in some parts of Nicaragua. All attempts to cultivate it have failed. The United States and Germany are large purchasers of ipecac roots.

**Civil Service Examinations**      The Civil Service Commission announces the following examinations: assembled, Scientific Aid (Birds), \$1,800, United States National Museum, Smithsonian Institution; Scientific Aid (Parasitology), \$1,800, Bureau of Animal Industry. Applications must be on file not later than (a) April 25, if received from states other than those named in (b); (b) April 28, if received from the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

**Improvement of Poultry**      "Recently the U. S. Department of Agriculture has called attention to a simple plan worked out by Dr. C. W. Knox for improving farm poultry flocks," says Frank E. Mitchell in *Progressive Farmer* (April). "The plan calls for dividing the flock this year into two groups. The best 15 hens would be mated with the best male on the farm. From this mating would come the cockerels to mate with the pullets produced from the second pen for the 1939 breeding season. From the second pen the poultryman would save cockerels to mate with the pullets from his best pen. If the male bird lives and is in good condition next year he is to be mated again to the best hens for the production of cockerels and pullets. Thus it can be seen that there will be a possibility in 1939 of four different matings. For the 1940 mating season the Knox plan could be followed by mating males with females from different pens so there would not be a preponderance of blood from any one pen. After the 1940 season Dr. Knox suggests the possibility of introducing from Record of Performance flocks one or two male birds which are unrelated to the original foundation sires."

**Freight Rate Decisions**      The Interstate Commerce Commission has authorized the railroads to reduce by 3 cents a 100 pounds freight rates on newsprint shipments from International Falls, Minn., and Fort Frances, Ont., to meet competition of carriers on the Great Lakes. The reduced rates will be in effect from April 1 to Nov. 30, the navigation season. The commission has limited to 5 percent a projected railroad freight rate increase of unmanufactured tobacco moving in less than carload quantities. This put tobacco in the same classification as cotton. These two products, the commission said, moved extensively on "any-quantity" rates. (Associated Press.)

**Rural Sales Increase**      Daily average sales of general merchandise in small towns and rural areas for February increased in all regions but the Far West, as compared with January, although the changes were less than the usual seasonal amount, the Department of Commerce reports. The changes ranged from an increase of about  $11\frac{1}{2}$  per cent for the South to a decline of about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent in the Far West. As compared with February, 1937, there was a decrease of about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent, the department said. (Press.)



**Alfalfa-Brome Grass Mixture** "Mixtures of alfalfa and smooth brome grass are showing considerable promise for pasture purposes, reports E. S. Dyas, extension agronomist at Iowa State College," says Samuel H. Reck, Jr., extension editor, Iowa State College. "This type of mixture has been used for years by farmers in Nebraska and western Iowa, he points out, and lately farmers farther east have become interested in it from the standpoint of conserving soil and producing an economical, highly palatable, drought-resistant and safe forage for livestock. The Michigan Experiment Station has found that mixtures of alfalfa and brome grass overcome practically all of the disadvantages either crop has when grown separately. Bloat danger is minimized, the stand will last longer, it will produce as much palatable forage as alfalfa alone, and annual weeds and bluegrass are kept down. The mixture resists drought almost as well as alfalfa alone; consequently there is a minimum of seasonal fluctuations in productivity...Both spring and early-summer seedings have been successful with this pasture mixture. Soil and seed-bed requirements are about the same as for alfalfa."

**February Exports Up** United States exports in February were 13 per cent greater than in February, 1937, while imports decreased 41 per cent, the Department of Commerce says in its monthly foreign trade summary. Exports declined 9 per cent since January, and imports, 4.6 per cent, largely because of the shorter month. Total exports in February amounted to \$262,733,000, and imports totaled \$163,085,000, compared to exports of \$233,125,000 and imports of \$277,709,000 in February last year. "The decrease of 9 per cent from January in the value of total exports was largely due to seasonal influences which particularly affect shipments abroad of leaf tobacco, raw cotton, fruits and automobiles," the statement said. (Press.)

**"Standardized" Cotton Crops** An extra cash return of \$8,500,000 was realized on the 1937 crop by growers in 781 communities who "standardized" good varieties of medium to long staple cotton. These growers produced about 1,500,000 bales ranging from an inch to 1 1-16 inch in staple length, said J. C. Ferguson, extension cotton gin specialist at North Carolina State College. The results secured in these communities over the cotton belt are indicative of what growers in all cotton-growing communities can do if they cooperate in improving the quality of their product. In "standardizing" a community, growers get together and select a variety of medium staple cotton that is suited to their soil and climate. Then all or nearly all plant this one variety. Ferguson urges growers to secure good seed and wherever possible, cooperate with their neighbors in "standardizing" a good variety. "If you can't buy enough good seed to plant all your crop this year," he said, "buy some good seed, raise it, keep it pure, and use the seed from this planting for next year's crop." (Raleigh News & Observer, March 21.)

**Potatoes** The New York Times Magazine (March 27) contains "Uncle Sam in Search of the 'Ideal' Potato", by Frank George, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.



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Section 1

March 30, 1938

RECIPROCAL TRADE PACTS      This country's pending reciprocal trade treaty with England and the revised pact with Canada will be signed together on June 1, in all probability, Dr. Henry F. Grady, vice chairman of the United States Tariff Commission and chairman of the Committee for Reciprocity Information, told the annual meeting of the Export Managers Club of New York, Inc. Every effort, he added, is being made to put the two agreements into effect at the same time. Dr. Grady's address and those of other speakers were delivered to a record audience of foreign traders who reported a steady expansion in their sales of American manufactured goods abroad. Unofficial estimates of first-quarter business among machinery, office supply, hardware, drug and chemical, and other export lines placed the gains for the period at 20 to 25 percent ahead of the corresponding three months of 1937. (New York Times.)

REPORT RFC AID BILL      The Senate Banking and Currency Committee reported favorably yesterday the bill introduced last week by Senator Glass and supported by President Roosevelt, broadening the authority of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to extend aid to industry, and permitting it to resume self-liquidating loans to public bodies. Before reporting the bill the committee heard Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the RFC, and Secretary Ickes as director of PWA, urge its passage. Mr. Jones said that the RFC had about \$1,500,000,000 available for loans of all types, and that the amount was ample for the present. (Press.)

WORLD RUBBER EXPORT QUOTAS      A London report by the Associated Press says that basic rubber export quotas in a proposed five-year continuation of a control program were revised upward in final recommendations made yesterday by the International Rubber Regulation Committee. The committee suggested yearly quotas rising from 1,519,000 tons in 1939 to 1,569,000 in 1943. The preliminary figures had called for annual amounts ranging from 1,335,250 in 1938 to 1,494,250 in 1943. France, the United Kingdom, India, the Netherlands and Siam must decide before June 30 whether they will accept the recommendations to extend the control upon expiration of the present agreement in December.

AIR FREIGHT SERVICE      An air line providing direct freight service to some towns not even possessing airports began operating into Baltimore yesterday. The corporation will operate two airplanes a day between Baltimore and Martinsburg, West Virginia. Through a device invented by Dr. Lytle S. Adams, president of the corporation, its airplanes can pick up or discharge several hundred pounds of freight without bothering to land. (Baltimore Sun.)



**Farm Tenancy in Iowa** "If you have been wondering how the farm-tenant problem is to be solved, keep your eye on Iowa," says Samuel R. Guard in Country Home (April). "Out where the tall corn grows they have set up a state tenancy committee, which has developed a technique of fact-finding and policy-making which other states may do well to copy. In every one of Iowa's 99 counties, farmers, bankers, businessmen and officials are holding regular hearings on systems of land ownership and operation, recognizing all the economic and social consequences of cash rent, livestock lease, absentee landlordism, corporation farming and good old-fashioned resident farm-family ownership. The testimony is carefully recorded. Then there will be Congressional district hearings, in which the county findings will be compared and the underlying trends noted. Finally, the tenancy committee will undertake to formulate the best plan for preserving the American farm family on the land in our richest agricultural state and will make its recommendations to the legislature. This is fundamental democracy."

**Food Exports Increase** Exports of food products from the United States in February were 75 percent greater than for the same month last year, approaching a total of \$40,000,000 for the second consecutive month, according to the Department of Commerce. Continuance of substantial exports of corn and wheat contributed largely to the increase. The foodstuffs exports were valued at \$39,401,000 in February, compared with \$22,492,000 correspondingly the year before. Imports of food products in February were valued at \$47,051,000, a decline of about \$29,000,000 from the same month last year. (Press.)

**Ohio Rural Real Estate Farmer** (March 26). "In the last six months of 1937 foreclosures of rural real estate in Ohio numbered 330, compared with 546 in the same period the year before," says an editorial in Ohio Farmer (March 26). "Nearly all of these were the result of debt obligations incurred prior to 1930. The present rate about equals the rate in 1920 illustrating the relatively better position of agriculture due to increased income of 1937. What the future holds in view of the current so-called 'recession,' of course, is unknown but certainly agriculture is going into the decline, if this is one, in much stronger position than at any time in its history. Most farm mortgages have been refinanced at lower levels and lower rates of interest and on a long time basis. At the same time land values on which these mortgages are based are decidedly not on a speculative basis such as prevailed following the World War. Financially agriculture is in as sound a position as any American industry that we know about."

**Vitamins in Eggs** Texas A. & M. College through its experiment station staff is working on the production of eggs high in vitamin content by special feeding of the hens. Tests now under way show that by applying special food it is possible to increase the vitamin content greatly and establish a specialized market for such eggs to fit particular dietary requirements. (Dallas Morning News, March 20.)



Congress,                      The Senate passed the reorganization bill (S. 3331)  
March 28                      (pp. 5511-5530).

Messrs. Jones, Fulmer, Doxey, Hope, and Kinzer were appointed House conferees on H.R. 9915, making several amendments to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (p. 5561).

Messrs. Woodrum, Johnson of Okla., Fitzpatrick, Johnson of W. Va., Houston, Wigglesworth, and Dirksen were appointed House conferees to consider further the amendments in disagreement to the Independent Offices Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R. 8837) (P. 5551). The amendments in disagreement are: requiring Senate confirmation of certain appointees making \$5,000 or more whose salary is paid from this bill; providing for construction of Gilbertsville Dam, Ky.; permitting use of certain oleomargarine in Veterans' hospitals.

Bills Introduced: in Senate, by Mr. Berry: S. 3742, for the protection of Government law-enforcement officers or agents by providing pensions to those injured, and compensation to the dependents of those killed in the discharge of duty; ref. Committee on Judiciary; in House, by Mr. Biermann: H. R. 10056, to extend for 2 additional years the  $3\frac{1}{2}$  percent interest rate on certain Federal land-bank loans, and to provide for a 4-percent interest rate on Land Bank Commissioner's loans for a period of 2 years; ref. Committee on Agriculture; by Mr. Scott: H. Res. 452, authorizing an investigation of the controversy between the \* \* \* Grow Health Association and the Medical Society \* \* \*; ref. Committee on Rules. Messrs. Scott and Voorhis spoke in favor of this resolution (pp. 5565-5567 and 5580).

Items in Appendix: radio addresses by Messrs. Byrnes and Schwellenbach, March 27, favoring the reorganization bill (pp. 5584-5586); speech in House by Mr. McFarlane during consideration of farm bill, February 8 (pp. 5591-5592); resolution of Arkansas Legislature opposing taxes which bar interstate commerce in food products (p. 5607).

Bill Approved by President: S. 3655, authorizing marketing quotas for burley tobacco (Approved March 26, 1938) (Public No. 452, 75th Congress). (Prepared by Office of Budget & Finance.)

Dept. Motion                      A motion picture program for April will be offered  
Pictures                      in the Department Auditorium Tuesday and Wednesday nights,  
                                 April 12 and 13, at 8:15 p.m. Tickets will be available  
in the lobby of the Auditorium, Saturday, April 9, between 8:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Persons who find they cannot use their tickets should return them to the Office of Motion Pictures, Room 1618, before noon on the 12th or 13th, or call Branch 674. The features of the program will be "The River" and "Bird and Animal Life on the Aleutian Islands". Other interesting films to be shown are "Learn to Swim", "Grass Lands", and "Salt of the Earth".

Grass Silage : Farm Implement News (March 24) says in an editorial  
Methods on grass silage: "...Grass silage started in Finland  
where they have to cure their hay by hanging it on strands  
of wire. Even then there is no certainty that the crop will not spoil  
under unceasing rains. So Prof. A. I. Virtanen devised and patented a  
method of making good silage out of green alfalfa by adding a diluted  
mixture of hydrochloric and sulphuric acid to the cut crop before en-  
siling. This sounds hard on the poor cows, but they thrive on the feed  
if they are fed enough limestone each day to counteract the acid.  
American investigators modified the A. I. V. process and avoided the  
patent royalty by running dilute molasses in with the alfalfa. This pro-  
vides enough sweet food for the acid-forming bacteria to thrive on, and  
when they can gorge and kick unrestrainedly, they prevent the putrefactory  
bacteria that spoil feed from multiplying as they otherwise would. A lot  
of tests have been made both with the A. I. V. and the molasses silage,  
and they have all turned out well. A third method involves the use of  
phosphoric acid with the alfalfa. It is cheap, unpatented and holds pro-  
mise, according to Frank Hamlin down at Shortsville. Penn State has just  
opened up a silo filled with phosphoric acid grass silage and reports it  
in excellent preservation. We have seen no feeding tests of this type  
silage reported so far. Dr. Bohsted at Madison has fed both A. I. V. and  
molasses silage successfully but does not allude to the phosphoric acid  
material...."

Motors in "Sidelines at the recent Flower Show in New York,"  
Gardens says Business Week (March 26), "emphasized the extent to  
which motors are taking over the drudgery of gardening,  
both amateur and professional. Mostly the units are gasoline-driven,  
but electricity is entering the field. There is an electric lawn-mower.  
And some genius has invented electric hedge-shears. Small gasoline  
tractors are coming strong. They are working out a market for themselves  
in the sector between manpower tools and horse-drawn equipment where the  
operation of full-size farm tractors would be too expensive or too un-  
wieldy. Since a number of attachments can be used with them (just as a  
horse can pull a variety of implements), small tractors are in demand  
for truck gardens, small farms, industrial landscaping, nurseries, estates,  
country clubs, parks, cemeteries. Trend in these lines is definitely  
toward inflated rubber tires..."

Nicaraguan To prevent a shortage of beans, rice and corn in the  
Food Storage future the Nicaraguan National Bank has constructed several  
large, modern silos to store these grains, which constitute  
75 per cent of the food used by Nicaraguans, says a cable from Managua  
to the New York Times. Loans will be made to farmers for raising grain  
crops. Last year the government imported rice because the farmers  
planted cotton, a more profitable crop.



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March 31, 1938

**NUTRITION** Addition of 30 more years to the life of man by diet  
**INSTITUTE** changes was foreseen yesterday by scientists of Cornell University, reporting before the American Institute of Nutrition at its fifth annual meeting in Baltimore. This stretching of the traditional three-score years and ten is possible by restricting high-energy foods eaten in the early years of life and living more slowly but vastly longer, Drs. C. M. McCay, L. A. Maynard and G. Sperling declared. It is estimated medical research has added 15 years to the average length of life in the past 75 years, and Dr. Thomas Parran, surgeon general of the Public Health Service, recently told a Congressional committee that at least another ten years could be added by widespread use of medical knowledge now available. (Associated Press.)

**LAND BANK** Real estate holdings of the Federal Land Banks dropped  
**RECORD SALES** sharply in 1937 for the first time since 1929, according to Charles R. Dunn, fiscal agent of the land banks, who yesterday announced the results of the system's operations for 1937. The banks sold a record volume of real estate last year; expenses were cut, and net earnings increased, resulting in the Federal Land Banks System being in the strongest financial position in recent years, Mr. Dunn stated. "The number of farms and sheriffs' certificates held decreased from 29,075 to 25,838 during last year and in terms of carrying value from \$100,487,053 to \$86,957,443," Mr. Dunn stated. (New York Times.)

**RAILROAD** The Association of American Railroads announced  
**DEFICIT** yesterday that the Class I railroads had an operating deficit in February for the first time in seventeen years. The deficit was \$2,136,481, in contrast with a net operating income of \$38,792,779 in February, 1937, and one of \$58,367,529 in the same month in 1930. President Roosevelt is preparing to send Congress a recommendation for legislation to help the carriers. (Associated Press.)

**RUBBER TIRES** Estimating that sales of rubber tires for tractors  
**ON FARMS** and other farm implements last year approximated \$19,000,000 compared with less than \$1,000,000 in 1933, S. B. Robertson, president of the B. F. Goodrich Company, said yesterday that the rapid expansion of the market for tires in the agricultural machinery field was one of the most important developments in the rubber industry. He declared that at the present rate of growth sales of rubber tires for tractors and other implements might reach \$75,000,000 to \$100,000,000 a year by 1948. (Press.)

Shelterbelt                      E. N. Bressman, Scientific Adviser, Office of the Tree Planting Secretary, contributes a short illustrated article to Successful Farming (April). He says: "Last fall I had a look, first hand, at most of the area in the prairie-plains region where the United States Forest Service has been planting tree shelterbelts since the spring of 1935. The things that I saw astonished me. In June, 1934, the President announced the inauguration of a program of tree-planting in the prairie plains area, and the so-called 'Plains Shelterbelt Zone' was established, beginning at the Canadian boundary in North Dakota and extending southward 2,602 miles into the northwest part of Texas. To the Forest Service was assigned the administration of the project. On March 19, 1935, the first tree, an Austrian pine, was planted on the farm of H. E. Curtis, Mangum, Oklahoma. At the time I made my trip over the area, a total of 44,178,048 trees had been planted, and this service had been given to 6,529 individual farms. The farmer's contribution, consisting of land preparation, fencing, cultivation, amounts to 50 percent of the cost, which runs somewhat above \$30 per acre. The Government supplies trees, helps plant them, and supervises their care regularly."

Farm Soil                      "Few farmers have their soils mapped," says an editorial in Mapping                      Better Crops With Plant Food (March). "Therefore additional credit should be given that already accorded Elmer Christenson of Fremont, Michigan, as being the first in Michigan to complete a 4-H club project in farm-soil mapping. He last summer mapped 13 fields totaling 160 acres, and became one of the best amateur soil-map makers that Michigan State College specialists have ever found. Through cooperation with the county agricultural agent and members of the soil-conservation department of the college, the boy set up maps showing lime requirements of each field, made an erosion-survey map, a soil-type map, and a base map of the farm. Each one shows accurate outlines, fence lines, and measured areas differing within fields. He found that lime requirements range from none on six fields to a demand for 20 tons of marl for a field containing 9.4 acres. He set down 1936 and 1937 crop yields of the various fields so that results of future cropping and management changes can be measured. Without doubt this young man has started a scientific as well as thoroughly practical understanding of the possibilities of increased profits from those 160 acres... The completion of this project and the influence it may have on similar projects are contributions in keeping with those from many other important 4-H club projects which have attracted the nation's commendation."

Wood Sugar                      Wood sugar liquor, made from sawdust by scientists of Liquor                      the University of Wisconsin, may soon become a popular preservative for use in "canning" silage. Alfalfa and clover silage treated with the wood liquor came out of six months' storage in a highly palatable condition. Moreover, it was found to contain an unusually high quantity of carotene, which produces rich yellow milk, high in vitamin A. (Country Home Magazine, April.)



Senate,                   The Senate reconsidered the vote by which it agreed to  
March 29               S. Res. 167, providing for an investigation of flaxseed  
                         prices, and agreed to the resolution with an amendment  
which does not "direct", but only "requests" an investigation (p. 5662).

The Senate Committee on Education and Labor reported without amend-  
ment H.R. 9415, to amend the act establishing the Civilian Conservation  
Corps by authorizing the appointment of assistants and the discharge of  
enrollees prior to expiration of their enrollment (S. Rept. 1550).

Mr. Davis had inserted in the Record a letter from him to Secretary  
Hull, recommending more adequate protection of jute yarns, jute twines,  
and flax products which may be affected by the trade agreement with Great  
Britain (p. 5619).

(Omitted from digest of proceedings of March 28.) The Senate Com-  
mittee on Civil Service reported without amendment S. 3548, amending the  
Civil Service Retirement Act to permit credit for service without deposit  
of applicable percentage deduction (S. Rept. 1545).

House,                   The House Committee on Rivers and Harbors reported  
March 29               with amendment H. R. 10027, to provide for the regional  
                         conservation and development of the national resources  
(H. Rept. 2030).

Mr. Shafer of Michigan addressed the House in opposition to the  
Group Health Association (pp. 5692-5694).

The House received a letter from the Secretary of Agriculture,  
transmitting a draft of a proposed bill which would authorize the granting  
of leave to Government employees in the field service while serving as  
jurors in Federal courts; ref. Committee on Judiciary (p. 5697).

Bill Introduced in House: By Mr. Ramspeck: H.R. 10070, to autho-  
rize the Secretary of Agriculture to cooperate with the States or politi-  
cal subdivisions in the development of recreational areas in national  
forests and on lands owned by the States or subdivisions; ref. Committee  
on Agriculture.

Items in Appendix: Extension of remarks of Mr. Culkin, "Butter  
an Essential Food" (pp. 5715-5717). Extension of remarks of Mr. Mead,  
favoring the reorganization bill (pp. 5722-5724). (Prepared by Office of  
Budget and Finance.)

Soil Erosion           Presenting a broad picture of moving soils--blowing  
Bulletin               dust, muddy creeks, and sliding hillsides--the Department  
                         has issued a new Miscellaneous Publication, "What is Soil  
Erosion?" The author is C. F. Stewart Sharpe of the Soil Conservation  
Service. The bulletin depicts accelerated erosion in a wide variety of  
forms, some of which have received only slight attention even from agri-  
cultural specialists. It discusses the little understood processes of  
mass movement of soil, including mudflow, gravitational creep, hillside  
slumping, and undercutting of streambanks. It shows that these processes,  
far from being "freak" types of soil removal, are of widespread and fre-  
quent occurrence.

Larvicide                      Chemical means invented in America promise to give  
Combats                      victory to white men in Africa on one of the most des-  
Tsetse Fly                      perately contended fronts in mankind's war against in-  
   sects--the campaign against the tsetse fly, says a Science  
Service copyright report. These insects, bearers of the deadly African  
sleeping sickness to human beings and scourges to livestock, flee from a  
spray originally developed for the control of New Jersey mosquitoes. The  
spray, the invention of Dr. J. M. Ginsburg, biochemist of the New Jersey  
Experiment Station, consists of substances extracted from pyrethrum, dis-  
solved in light petroleum oil. Discovery of the high value of the New  
Jersey larvicide as a tsetse repellent was made by an American expedition  
in Africa, the Morse Museum African-Asiatic Expedition. British autho-  
rities in Tanganyika Territory, which is especially afflicted with  
tsetse flies, have shown a keen interest in the New Jersey compound, and  
a small quantity has been sent to them for testing. Mrs. Julie B. Morse,  
in charge of research for the expedition, writes enthusiastically of the  
success of Dr. Ginsburg's mixture, as contrasted with the poor results  
obtained with earlier types of repellents.

Glass Block Dairy Farm      Cattle have been housed in nearly every type of structure, but it remained for A.J. Sardoni of Pennsylvania to introduce what is believed to be the first glass block dairy barn. Located on his 3,000-acre farm, the new barn houses 50 registered Guernseys that are bathed in floods of natural but diffused daylight as a result of "opened up" walls of glass blocks. (Dakota Farmer, March 26.)





